

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: WM-5

April 17, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ACCEPT EXCESS FUNDS GRANT FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT – WRIGLEY GREENBELT GATE PROJECT SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 4 3 VOTES

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:

- Accept a grant in the amount of \$15,000 from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to fund a portion of the Wrigley Greenbelt Gate project.
- 2. Authorize the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District) to transfer the \$15,000 grant to the Port of Long Beach to reimburse the Port of Long Beach for costs incurred through the Wrigley Greenbelt Gate project.
- 3. Authorize the Chief Engineer, or his designee, to conduct business with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, or its designee, and the Port of Long Beach on any and all matters related to this grant, including, but not limited to, executing a Grant Agreement and signing any amendments and requests for reimbursement for and on behalf of the District.

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PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of these recommendations will allow the District to partner with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, or its designee, and the Port of Long Beach on the design, construction, and fabrication of a decorative entry gate that will replace an existing flood control gate currently located along the east side of the Los Angeles River at 34th Street and Deforest Avenue in the City of Long Beach in an area commonly referred to as the Wrigley Greenbelt.

On June 13, 1996, your Board adopted the Los Angeles River Master Plan, an environmental planning document that focuses on implementing a multifaceted vision of the Los Angeles River, which includes environmental, aesthetic, and recreational enhancements in addition to the primary objective of flood protection. To achieve this vision, the Los Angeles River Master Plan recognizes the importance of working in partnership with local entities that share an interest in the Los Angeles River. Additionally, the Los Angeles River Master Plan suggests that "Celebrate the River" events can play a critical role in helping to foster a sense of river pride in the river-adjacent communities.

The Wrigley Greenbelt Gate project will celebrate the importance of collaborative efforts because the County, in partnership with the Port of Long Beach, will be replacing an existing District gate with a new decorative gate that will be designed by local river-conscious artists. Further, the gate will serve as a testament to a decade of successful community based "Celebrate the River" activities. The City of Long Beach has agreed to maintain the new gate.

In a related item on today's agenda, the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District is recommending the allocation of Fourth Supervisorial District Specified Excess Funds for the Wrigley Greenbelt Gate project. Under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority is the designated recipient of Specified Excess Funds for projects along the Los Angeles River. However, because the District will complete the Wrigley Greenbelt Gate project, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority will assign the right to apply for the Specified Excess Funds to the District.

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Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The proposed recommendations further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal 1 (Service Excellence), Goal 4 (Fiscal Responsibility), and Goal 5 (Children and Families' Well-Being) by allocating excess funds for a project to commemorate the Los Angeles River Master Plan and provide improved access to the Los Angeles River in the Fourth Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County's General Fund.

The Wrigley Greenbelt Gate project will be jointly funded by \$15,000 in Fourth Supervisorial District Specified Excess Funds and \$15,000 from the Port of Long Beach for a total project cost of \$30,000.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Delegated authority to the Chief Engineer, or his designee, to act as an agent for the District when conducting business with the Director of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, or his designee, on items related to this grant will streamline the project delivery process. Your action will allow the Grant Agreement to be executed by the Chief Engineer, or his designee, in his role as an agent for the District.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires public agency decision makers to document and consider the environmental implications of their actions. The project to replace an existing District gate with a decorative District gate, in accordance with the Los Angeles River Master Plan, is categorically exempt pursuant to Class 2, Section 15302, of the CEQA guidelines.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended project will enhance awareness of and provide improved access to the Los Angeles River in the Fourth Supervisorial District. There will be no negative impact on current services. The Honorable Board of Supervisors April 17, 2007 Page 4

CONCLUSION

Upon approval, please return three adopted copies of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. WOLFE
Director of Public Works

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cc: Chief Administrative Office

County Counsel

Regional Park and Open Space District